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Hear CIA Thumbs Sears Book For Listening Post in Bahamas

By JOHN OSBORN
Fairchild News Service®

CHICAGO. — Whether it uses labor unions or big business or school students, the Government's Central Intelligence Agency appears to touch all bases in the international game of "I spy."

In the wake of recent disclosures of CIA activity, Fairchild News Service® learned exclusively of a new report that the agency is calling on the big retail merchandising chains to serve as American listening posts in certain areas deemed to be potential as well as present trouble spots—where Government intelligence is deemed a must.

The latest example of CIA's "I Spy" machinations is a report that the agency has asked the world's largest merchan-

diser, Sears, Roebuck and Co., to open a department store in the Bahama Islands.

A spokesman for Sears International Operations categorically denied any present or past link with the CIA. He said that he has "no knowledge whatsoever" about a possible Bahama store.

Other Sears' sources shrugged off the rumor as "unfamiliar" but acknowledged that the company is constantly making "some checks" of such retirement-and-vacation spots. It is known that Sears has been actively scouting the Caribbean islands for some months.

The immediate interest of the CIA thrust in this direction is the fact that